STARRY NIGHTS – GUIDING STAR 17

1st Star – The start is upon you.
2nd Star - “wahidin li wahidin al tariqa al wahidin” – Be one for one Master.
3rd Star – What is with Allah subhana wa ta'ala will be, what is not with Allah subhana wa ta'ala will not be.
4th Star – To be grateful
5th Star - 'Yawmuki Yawmuki' - 'Your day is your day'
6th Star - 'Wa laysu'ka baytuka' - Your house, which is sufficient for you.
7th Star - As Sadiq Habibullah – the truthful one is beloved to Allah subhana wa ta'ala
8th Star – Himah – determination
9th Star – Sallim – Submit to your Lord
10th Star – Be Pleased with Allah subhana wa ta’ala.
11th Star – Be Aware of Plotting
12th Star – Everyday do something new
13th Star – Stop Complaining & Start the Remedy
14th Star – Does Allah love me or not?
15th Star – Do you have the provision?
16th Star – Is there a self desire in my deeds?

The way to Allah

What is the main thing in life? Everybody has one goal; this is the beauty of life and shows us the value of this life: we have a target and everyone is going towards this target...to reach Allah subhana wa ta’ala. The way to Allah subhana wa ta’ala has some principles and rules which we need to follow.
Guiding star number 17
The guiding star 17 is:

**The person is with whom he loves so choose your beloved one now.**

What does this mean?
The traveller wanting to travel to Allah needs four things:

1) *Hima* - determination
2) *Sidkin* - truthfulness
3) *Sabran* - patience
4) *Ikhlaas* - sincerity

We can't be in this journey/way without these keys. We have covered these in the previous guiding stars.

**Don’t be tired!!!**
From the very beginning we need to tell ourselves “don’t be tired”. Why? The way is too long!!!

Don’t be tired because:
1) if we are tired we will be less motivated, we won’t be able to focus and concentrate.
2) There is only one way - if you join in the way don’t turn back, the only way is to go forward.
3) Constantly continue/strive in the way to Allah,
4) And don’t worry about from where you will get the provision, how you will be patient, how you will be motivated.

Continue on the way to Allah even if it is little, just move on, do not go back and *subhanallah* the provision, the aid and help will come from The King, Allah *subhana wa ta'ala*.

Allah will never leave you and the help, provision will come to you from the King straightaway.
Don’t turn right & left!!
Be aware of turning right and left. We need to be focus on the way to Allah and not turn left or right.

Be aware don’t delay!!
The time to be on the way is now- it is now, not later you need to be on the way now. Don’t delay!!
If we look at all this we need to realise:
Don’t lose the many opportunities which Allah brings in front of you, especially the guidance, the faith, worship, anything which makes you go towards Allah. You need anything, however small, which makes you move towards Allah, so don't postpone any of these chances, grab them and ask the help of Allah.

Be aware don’t stop!!
Don’t give up, don’t stop and don’t say I can’t continue the way; continue, continue, and don’t stop, keep firm on the way to Allah.

What do we need to keep us firm?
All these signals are to keep us firm, to but these are difficult, don’t do this, so many restrictions, obstacles, to be aware and not stop, not delay etc. The journey is long, to keep us firm on this journey, we need somebody to be with us, help us, a human, a beloved companion (habib), a friend who will travel with us on this long journey, till we will reach with him/her to Allah.

Why do we need a companion?
We are not aware that we find the way difficult; we need somebody to encourage us, help us and be with us in the way to Allah. This is one of the ways/guiding stars to Allah subhana wa ta’ala.

Who is the one who can help in this guiding star/way?
The journey is long and there are many obstacles, and one of the rules is that it needs a Habib, a human companion, a beloved companion to travel with you till you will reach with him/her to Allah.

When things are difficult for you, they will encourage you and you can encourage them in the things they find difficult. This is one of the ways to Allah. You will be resurrected with whomever you love, i.e., where your heart is, on the day of judgement.

You will be resurrected with this person on the day of judgement.

The way to Allah, how we want to be on the day of judgement, is very important. Everyone will go to meet Allah, but before that we need to ask ourselves:

“I am here in this life, how do I want to be on the day of judgement, how do I want to meet Allah, in what state, and with whom?”
That is why it is so important to have a companion, to help and encourage each other in the way to Allah, and you will be resurrected with your companion. Whomever you love, where your heart is, you will be resurrected with them on the day of judgement. Together, you will enjoy the shade of the throne of Allah, nothing is more beautiful, and nothing will give more happiness in that very difficult stressful situation than the shade of His throne.

**What is the way/asal now?**

How will we be with him/her on the Day of judgement? We will be with the person whom we love. The matter of the heart/love is very important to determine whom to be with on the day of judgement. We will be allowed to choose whom we will be resurrected with. We don’t need to be physically present with this person; you just need the love for them in the heart.

**How will we choose whom to love?**

One of the asal is do you love Allah? If you love Allah and you love whomever Allah loves, how will you choose the beloved companion? We will choose the ones whom Allah loves. We don’t want to choose the people who oppose Allah and his Messenger saw, the negligent, the heedless. We want to choose somebody who loves Allah and his beloved Messenger saw. You love Allah and anybody who loves Allah, and they will be your companions on the day of judgement. You will be his neighbour/jar in Al Firdaus Al Ala.

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**Ask for the best!!!**

This is why the Prophet saw said if you ask Allah for jannat ask for the best, Al Firdaus.

*Allahuma inni as-aluka al firdaus*

The best place in paradise is Al Firdaus. It is the highest place in paradise, central in jannat, all the rivers in jannat flow and originate from it, and the ceiling of the Firdaus is Allah’s throne. The people in Al Firdaus will be able to look at Allah morning and night.

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**The Stars under the Arsh of Allah**

The most beloved companions you love are the people who love Allah and the Messenger saw, and on the day of the judgement you will be with them under the Arsh of Allah. Who are these stars who will be under the Arsh of Allah on the day of judgement, who love Allah, the ones whom you love even though you haven’t seen them? These stars are the Sahabas un Nabi - the companions of the Prophet saw. Your heart feels a precious love and if it is for Allah, and for the sake of Allah, ask yourself:

*Who are the people who love Allah and the Messenger saw the most?*

The Sahabas, the companions of the Prophet saw.
Love of the Sahabas!!

How was the love of the sahabas for the sake of Allah? How was the love between the sahabas?

The sahabas used to deal with people with the best of the words.

We need beautiful gentle words to deal with people. We need to look at the sahabas or anyone who really loves Allah, those who do everything for the sake of Allah, and choose the way of the Sahabas, i.e., choose the best words to deal with people. You will see that people will draw towards them and love them like a magnet. If we think about the Sahabas, read about them in the history etc, we really and truly love them even though we haven't seen them. The secret is the beautiful words (kalimaat il jameela) they used in their dealings with people. If we follow the Sahabas you will earn the love, you will warm the life of people and attract them. Subhanallah if we think about it, we can all be together on the way to Allah.

What are the signs of the love to/for Allah?

Wherever the beloved person is, i.e. wherever there is love for the sake of the Allah; to watch the beloved ones and try to seek their pleasure. Obviously, all of us are trying to get the pleasure of Allah and everything goes with the pleasure of Allah, but this guiding star is about the love of people. In order to help us on our way to Allah, we need the love of people.

We need to learn from the sahabas and be like them, observe how the companionship of the righteous people was.

Love for the companions

Fudayl Ibn Ghazwan, a sahaba met his friend Abu Ishaq said:

I came to Abu Ishaq, after he had lost his eyesight. I asked him "Do you recognise me"? The companions, even if they could not see, could feel and sense their loved ones. His companion answered "Of course I know, you are Al Fudayl", and then he said

“Inni wallah la uhibuka fillah”

"By Allah I Love you for the sake of Allah"

This is the pure love of the sahabas and righteous ones (saaliheen).

He said "I feel shy but I really want to kiss you and hug you" then his friend Al Fudayl hugged him. And then he recited an ayat from the Quran:

Surah 8. Al-Anfal, Verse 63:

وَأَلَّفَ بَيْنَ قُلُوبِهِمْ لَوْ أَنفَقْتَ مَا فِي الْرَّضِي وتَأْتَ بَيْنَ قُلُوبِهِمْ وَلَٰكِنَّ اللَّهَ أَلَّفَ بَيْنَهُمْ إِنَّهُ عَزِيزٌ حكَمٌ
Translation:
And He has united their (i.e. believers') hearts. If you had spent all that is in the earth, you could not have united their hearts, but Allah has united them. Certainly He is All-Mighty, All-Wise.

This ayat was actually revealed for the companions who love for the sake of Allah. If we spend everything on the earth, we cannot reunite the hearts, unless Allah unites them.

Abu Al-‘Aaliyah, a sahaba used to welcome his friends with an ayat from the Quran:

Surah 6. Al-Anaam, Verse 54:

Translation:
When those who believe in Our Ayat (proofs, evidences, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.) come to you, say: "Salamun 'Alaikum" (peace be on you); your Lord has written Mercy for Himself, so that, if any of you does evil in ignorance, and thereafter repents and does righteous good deeds (by obeying Allah), then surely, He is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

This was the kind of love exhibited by Abu Al-‘Aaliyah - nothing is more beautiful than the Quran. This is the kind of support and love we need!!!!

Ibn Umar al Khataab would go to the market even though he did not want to buy or sell anything and he would deliver salutations of peace to everyone he met. When he was asked about this, he said: "We only go out in order to greet the people with salutations of peace and they will greet us with salutations of peace”

This is the love for the sake of Allah (hubb illah). He loved the muslimeen and loved to see them. From this we realise: Even seeing people will make you love them, this is the love for Allah, pure love without any reason.

These sahabas are those with the highest of taqwa and yet they also needed people to love, they needed a companion.
The way to Allah

The way to Allah is long and really needs a beloved companion to help us on the way. We saw examples of the sahabas how they loved for the sake of Allah and how they needed a companion to help them.

The way we love for the sake of Allah, likewise we should also hate for the sake of Allah.

If we love and hate for Allah’s sake, it is as if you have tightened the knots of faith (imaan). Imaan is the knot in the heart.

What completes your faith?

Love for Allah and hate for Allah!!!!

Al hubb is to love Allah and to love whomever He loves, and to choose the beloved companion from among them.

Al bughz is to hate for Allah’s sake, to hate disbelief and the people following the disbelief and committing shirk.

Your heart is very precious!!!

Everything depends on our hearts, where we will be – Paradise or Hell.

A person will be in paradise if he loves for the sake of Allah.

A Person will not be in paradise if he loves for someone to be in hellfire, i.e., love is in one direction and hate is in the other direction. Love for the sake of Allah and hate the disbelief and the disbelievers! We hate the disbelief because we don’t accept the disbelief in Allah.

An excellent example of this is Prophet Ebrahim AS who loved and hated for the sake of Allah. Allah tells us in the Quran:

Surah 60. Al-Mumtahina, Verse 4:

قد كَانَتْ لَكُمْ أُسْوَةُ حَسَنَةً في إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَالَّذِينَ مَعَهُ إِذْ قَالُوا لِقَوْمِهِمْ إِنَّا بُرَآءُ مِنكُمْ وَمِمَّا تَعْبُدُونَ مِن دُونِ اللَّهِ كَفَرْنَا بِكُمْ وَبَدَا بَيْنَنَا وَبَيْنَكُمُ الْعَدَاوَةُ وَالْبَغْضَاءُ أَبَدًا ََتَّىَٰ تُؤْمِنُوا بِاللَّهِ وََْدَهُ إِلََّ قَوْلَ إِبْرَاهِيمَ لَِْبِيهِ لََْسْتَغْفِرَنَّ لَكَ وَمَا أَمْلِكُ لَكَ مِنَ اللَّهِ مِن شَيْءٍ رَّبَّنَا عَلَيْكَ تَوَكَّلْنَا وَإِلَيْكَ أَنَبْنَا وَ إِلَيْكَ الْمَصِيرُ

Translation:

Indeed there has been an excellent example for you in Ibrahim (Abraham) and those with him, when they said to their people: "Verily, we are free from you and whatever you worship besides Allah, we have rejected you, and there has started between us and you, hostility and hatred for ever, until you believe in Allah Alone," except the saying of Ibrahim (Abraham) to his father:

"Verily, I will ask for forgiveness (from Allah) for you, but I have no power to do anything for you
before Allah." Our Lord! In You (Alone) we put our trust, and to You (Alone) we turn in repentance, and to You (Alone) is (our) final Return.

We need to:
Hate the companion who distracts us from Allah, the people who disbelieve and the people of shirk.
Love Allah, love the people who love Allah, and hate the people who hate Allah, who hate the Prophet saw.
**Choose from now**
We need to choose from now who will be with us on the day of judgement. We need to be far, far away from the people who will make us faraway from Allah, you will make you not love Allah and his Messenger saw.

**Surah 11. Hud, Verse 113:**

وَلَا تَرْكُنَّ إِلَّا الَّذِينَ ظَلَّمُوا فَتَمَسَّكُمُ النَّارُ وَمَا لَكُم مِّن دُونِ اللَّهِ مِنْ أَوْلِيَاءَ ثُمَّ لََّنَّ تُنصَرُونَ

**Translation:**
And incline not toward those who do wrong, lest the Fire should touch you, and you have no protectors other than Allah, nor you would then be helped.

Allah has said our hearts are very precious. So don’t choose your companion as the one who is wronging himself, because he will make you wrong yourself.

**Accompanying Shirk or Kufr!!**

To accompany the people of shirk or kufr is a sin. Companionship is very important. The sahabas said “The most beautiful thing after Islam is the companionship”.

To be a friend of the people of shirk & kufr is a sin. To accompany the people of faith and taqwa is by itself an act of worship.

Friendship and companionship in itself will either be a sin or will be an act of worship and will make you closer to Allah.

Love the pious people and make them your beloved ones. This is about the companionship and Allah will make this stronger and stronger.

All of them will help you to reach Allah!!!

All you need is your love -everyone will do a different ibadat and everyone will be resurrected in one row together because of the love subhanallah. If you want to be with someone you need to love them even if you don’t do the same good deeds as they did.

**It’s not what we do... it’s the heart!!!!**

Allah sees the heart and not what you do outside.

In the Hadith, Nabi saw said:
"You are choosing from now, because the person you will be with is here"
On hearing this hadith the sahabas said "From all the hadiths, we love this one the most".

**Dua:**

O Allah, provide us Your love and to love whomever You love, and do the deeds You love.
O Allah, in the same way as You have gathered us with Your love in this duniya, gather us with Your love in Firdaus
Ameen

Ask yourself: **Who are your beloved ones?**